

NOAA's National Marine Sanctuary Program



***“Leaders in Protecting America’s
Natural and Cultural Heritage”***



February 2006





Organization of Briefing



Understanding the National Marine Sanctuaries System

- 1) Program Elements: What We Do
- 2) Organization and Funding
- 3) How We Do Business

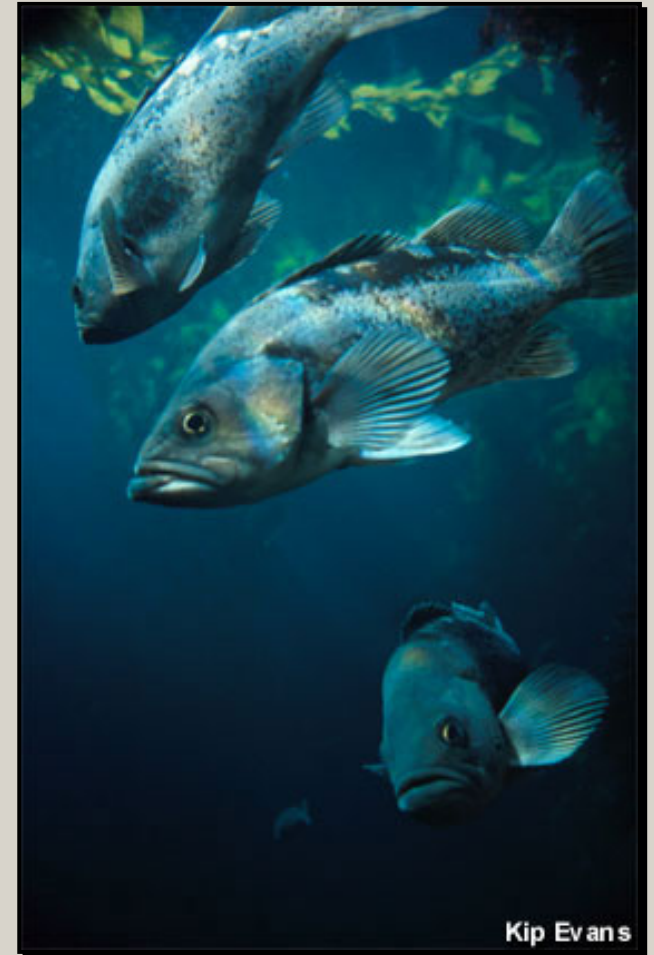
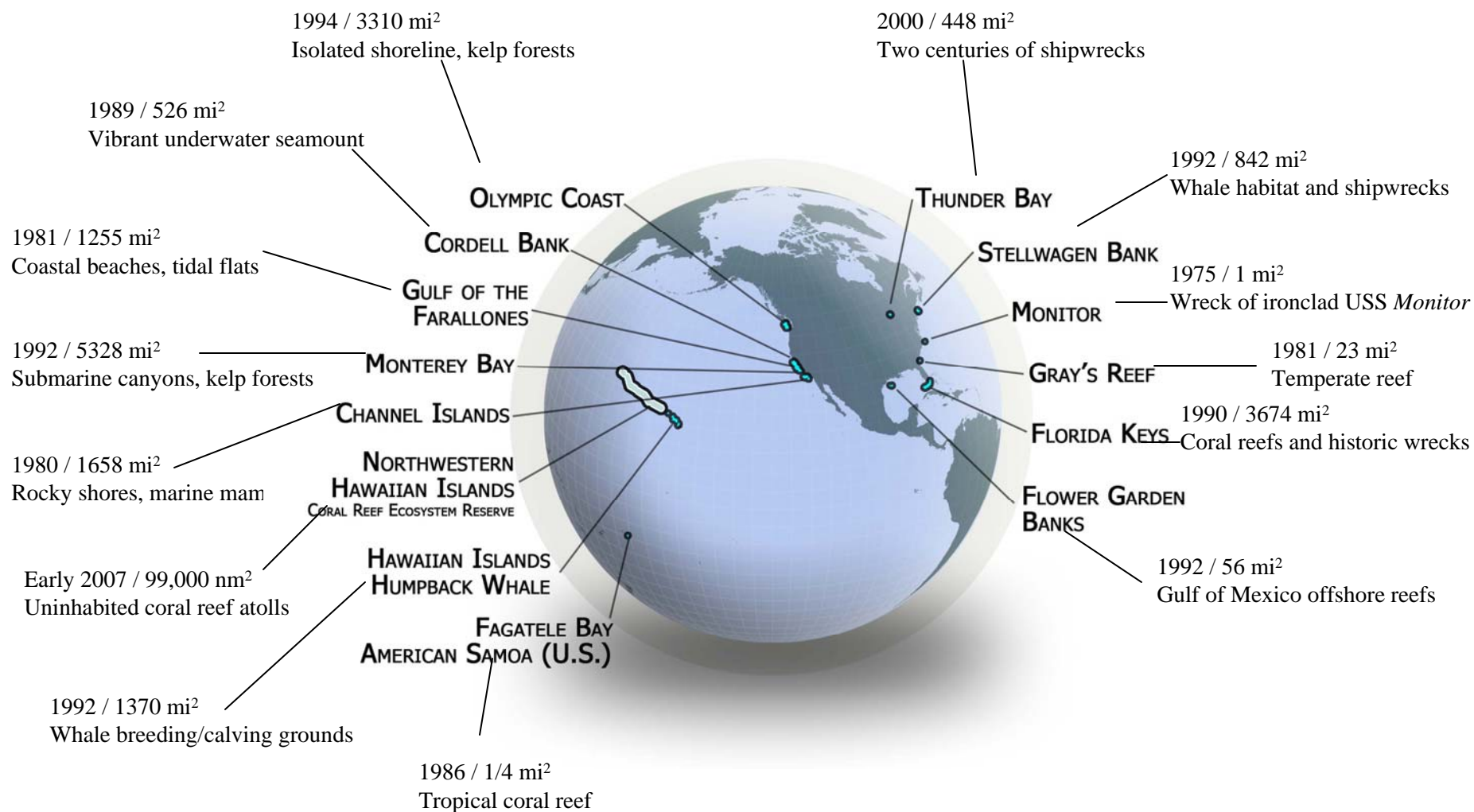


Photo by James Watt

National Marine Sanctuaries • America's Ocean Treasures



Our National Marine Sanctuaries



“Responsible for More U.S. Territory than U.S. Park Service and FWS Refuges Combined.”



Mandated Requirements

“Areas of the marine environment with special conservation, recreational, ecological, historical, cultural, archaeological, or esthetic qualities...” National Marine Sanctuaries Act (Sec. 301)

- Raising public awareness and understanding through education and outreach.
- Improving management through research (e.g., historical, conservation science, social science).
- Helping coastal economies by promoting and protecting healthy resources.
- Facilitating public use compatible with resource protection.



Long Term High Level Goals



Goal 1

Identify, designate, and manage sanctuaries to maintain the natural biological communities through innovative, coordinated, and community-based techniques.

Goal 2

Build and strengthen the National Marine Sanctuary System and enhance system's role system in larger marine protected area networks

Goal 3

Enhance nation-wide public awareness, understanding, and appreciation of marine ecosystems and heritage





Long Term High Level Goals

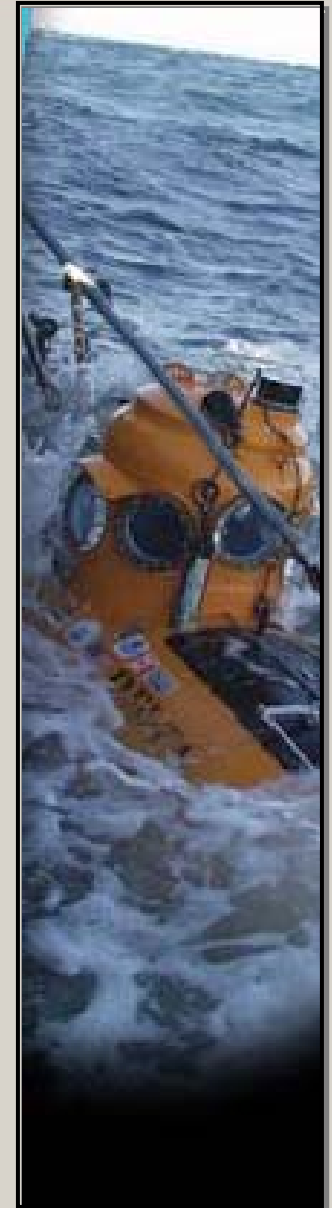


Goal 4

Enhance the understanding of ecosystem processes through continued research, monitoring, and characterization to support ecosystem-based management

Goal 5

Facilitate human use in sanctuaries to the extent such uses are compatible with the primary mandate of resource protection





Long Term High Level Goals

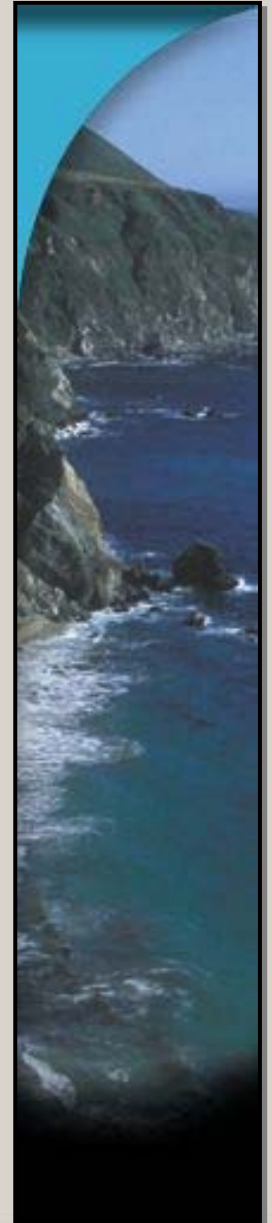


Goal 6

Work with the international community to strengthen global protection of marine resources and disseminate NMSP experience and techniques

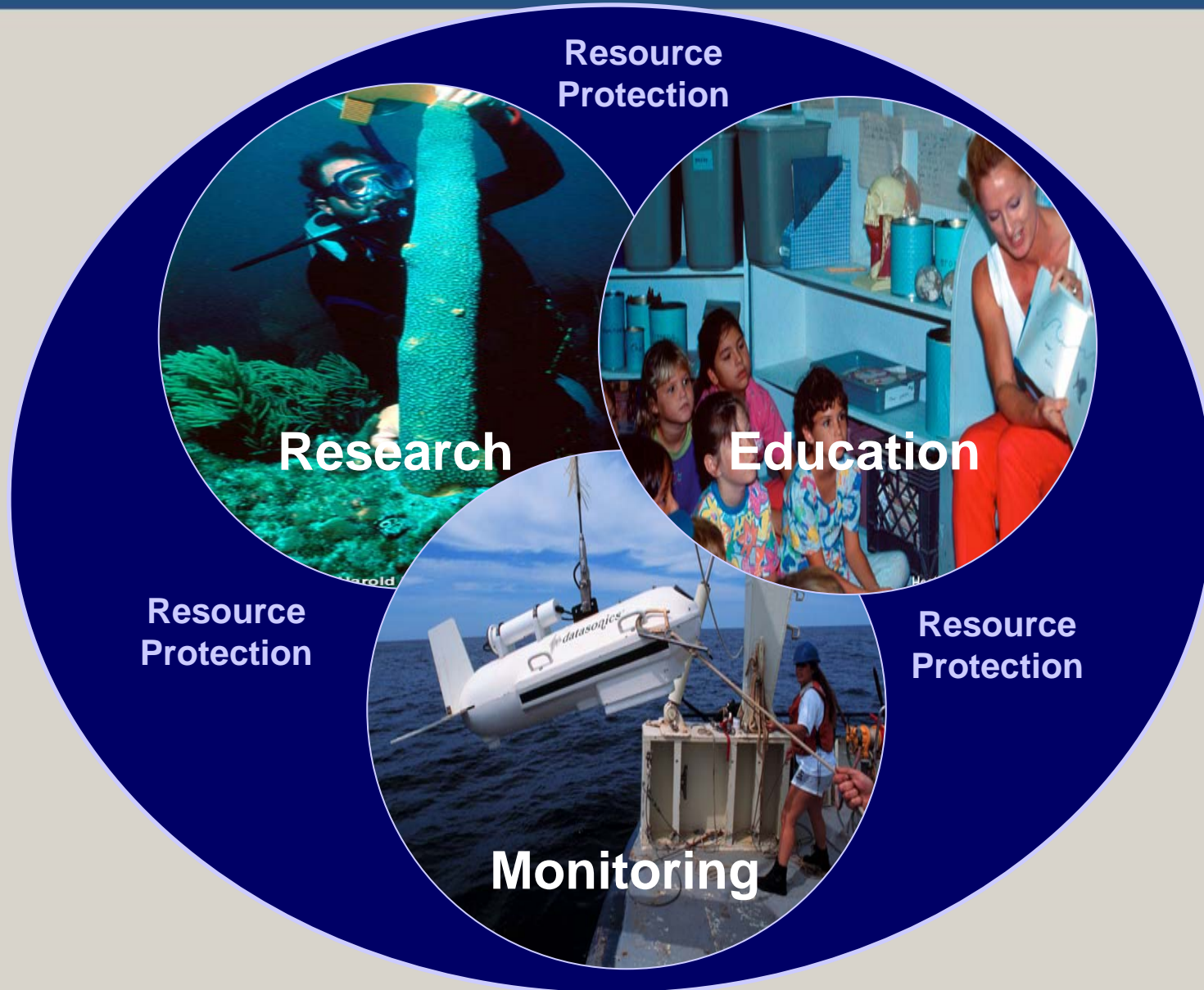
Goal 7

Build, maintain, and enhance an operational capability and infrastructure that efficiently and effectively support the attainment of the NMSP's mission and goals.





Program Elements





Resource Protection



Serving as Trustee for Future Generations

- Ensuring protection of areas of national significance.
- Maintaining an ecological balance overtime.
- Ensuring the long-term availability of resources for ecological and economic benefits.
- Innovative and community based enforcement of laws and regulations.



Steve Kipnis - Florida Keys NMS

Moray eel in its coral habitat
Florida Keys NMS



Research



Directing Science to Management

- Management requirements drive directed science.
- Placing sanctuaries in an ecosystem context through mapping and characterization.
- Focus for partner sponsored scientific investigation.
- Test bed for pioneering new technologies for management.



Exploring reefs with DeepWorker
Monterey Bay NMS



Optic instrumentation launch
Channel Islands NMS

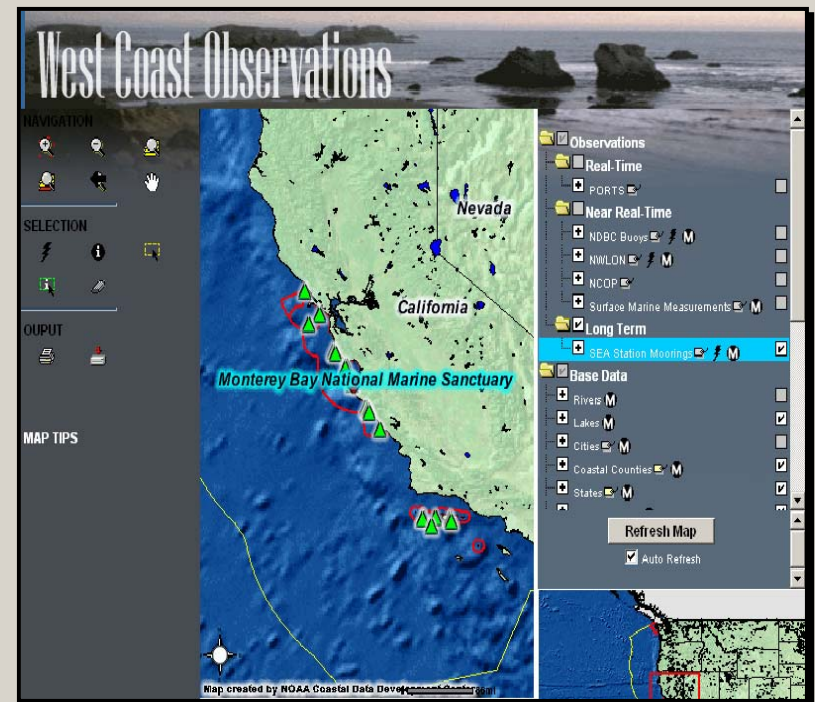


Monitoring



Advancing Ecosystem-Based Monitoring to Support Decision-Making

- Evolving a “system-wide” monitoring strategy derived from sanctuary management requirements.
- Investing in IOOS system data collection, management and delivery components for regional ecosystems.



Sanctuary “SEA” moorings and SIMoN data information system are fundamental components of CeNCOOS’ regional system



Education



Leaders in Bringing the Marine Ecosystems to the Public

- Education and outreach to teachers, students, users, ocean and coastal resource managers, and general public across the nation.
- Creating a foundation for stewardship.
- Using technology to take people beneath the waves.
- Innovative partnerships to reach all Americans (e.g., aquaria, museums, and state education systems).



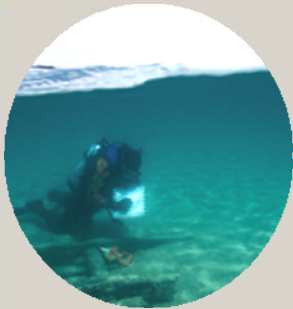
TEAM OCEAN outreach *Florida Keys NMS*



Information boards *Stellwagen Bank NMS*



Maritime Heritage



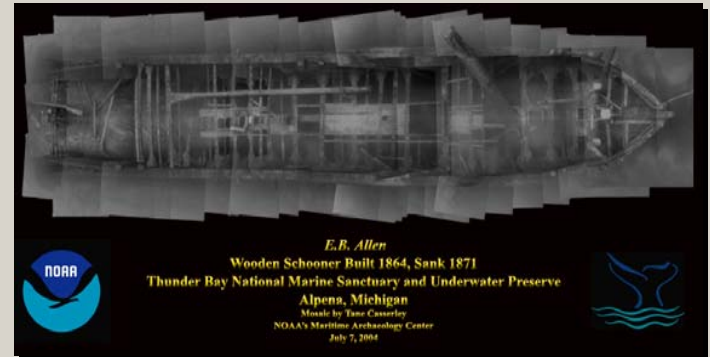
Connecting American's to the Oceans Through Our Maritime History

- Evolving national leadership in maritime and cultural heritage programming.
- Connecting people to place, culture and environmental conservation.
- Focus for partner sponsored scientific investigation.
- Stimulating local economic growth through development of maritime heritage programs.



Photo: Thunder Bay NMS, NOAA

Cornelia B. Windiate- TBNMS



E.B. Allen
Wooden Schooner Built 1864, Sank 1871
Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary and Underwater Preserve
Alpena, Michigan
Mosaic by Tane Casserley
NOAA's Maritime Archaeology Center
July 7, 2004

Schooner E.B. Allen Mosaic- Courtesy Tane Casserley



Organization and Funding

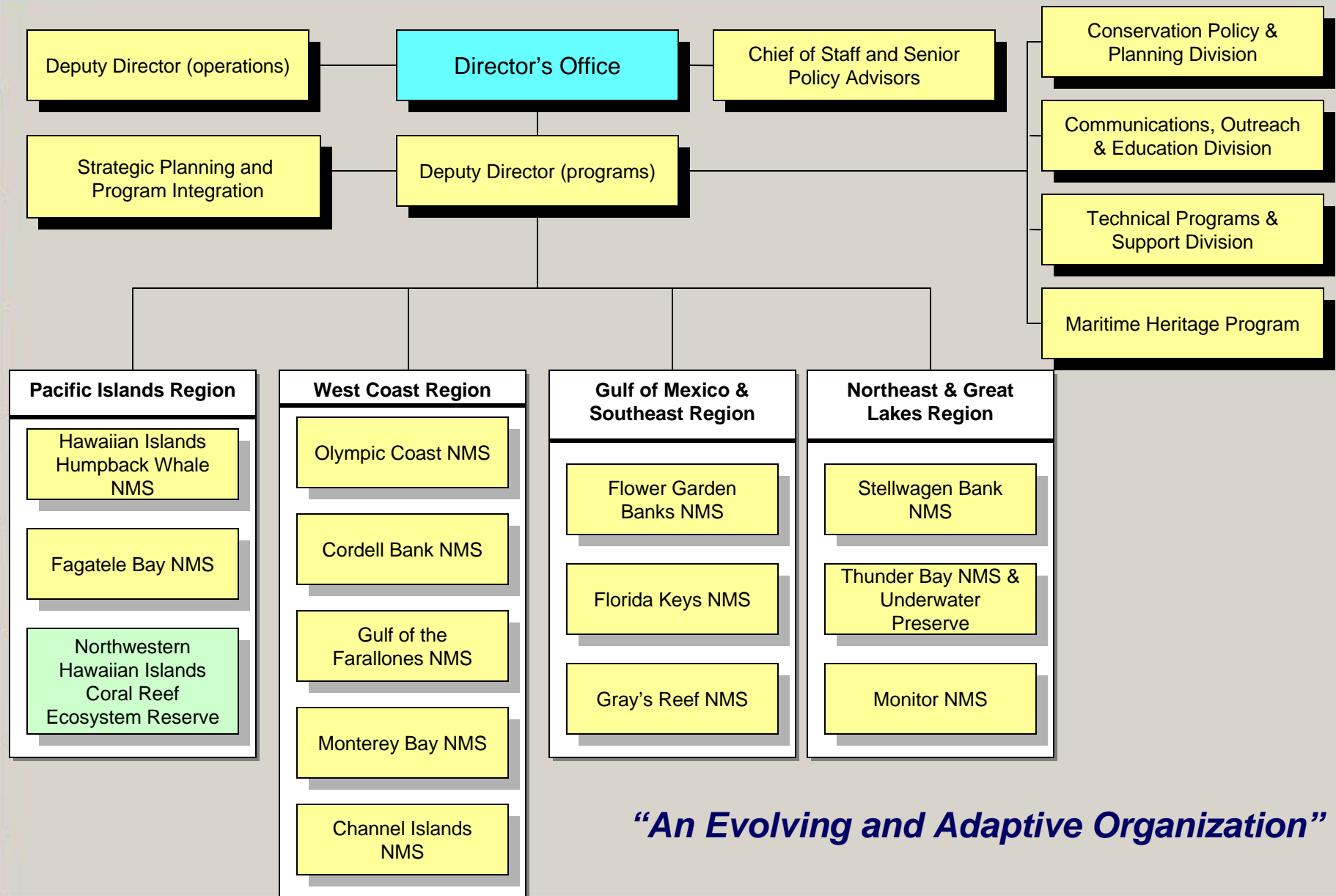
“Recognition of NMSP’s Leadership in Marine Conservation”



Steve Fisher



How Are We Organized?



"An Evolving and Adaptive Organization"



Who We Are: The People

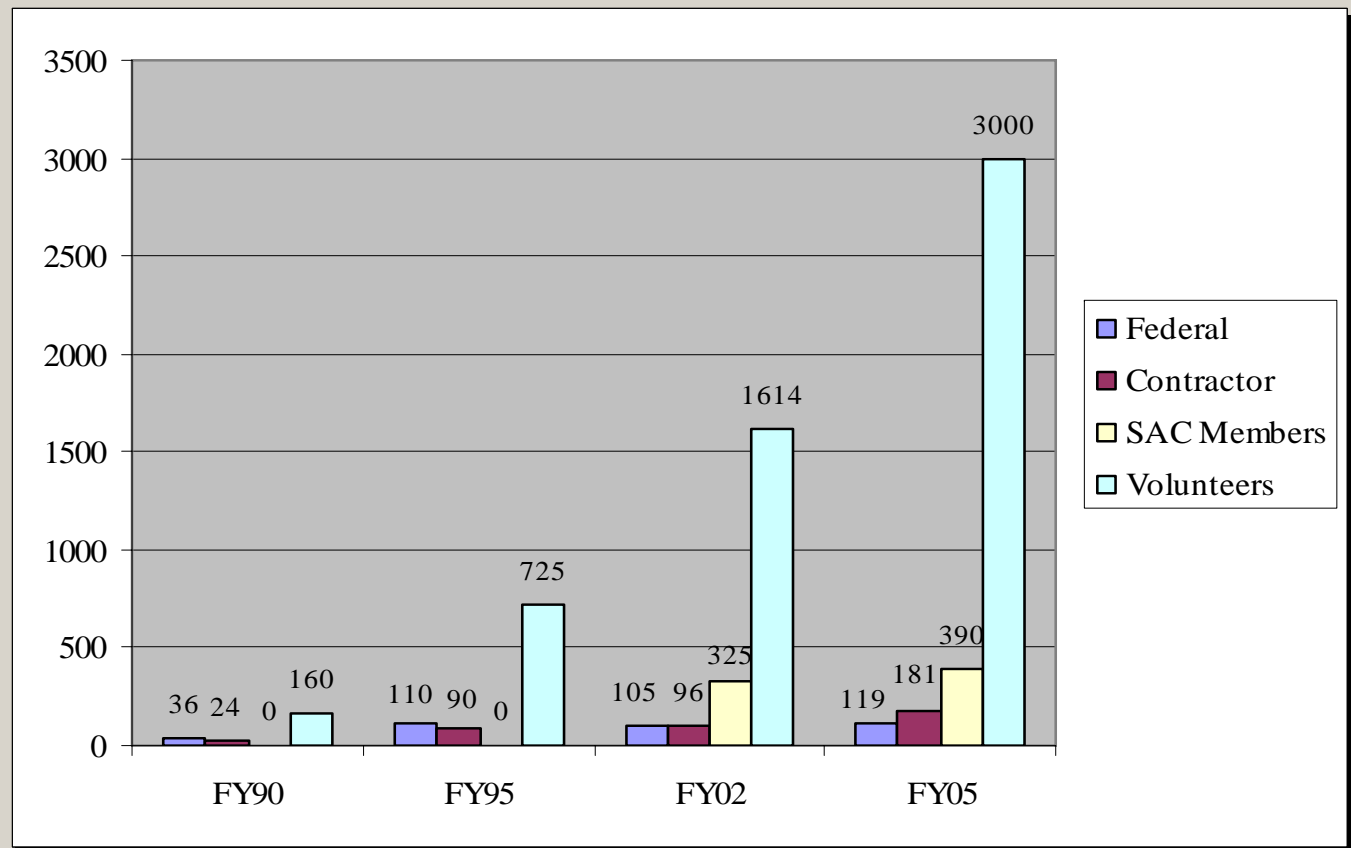


“An innovator in the multi-sector workforce”



Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary

Beach wildlife survey
*Gulf of the Farallones
NMS*

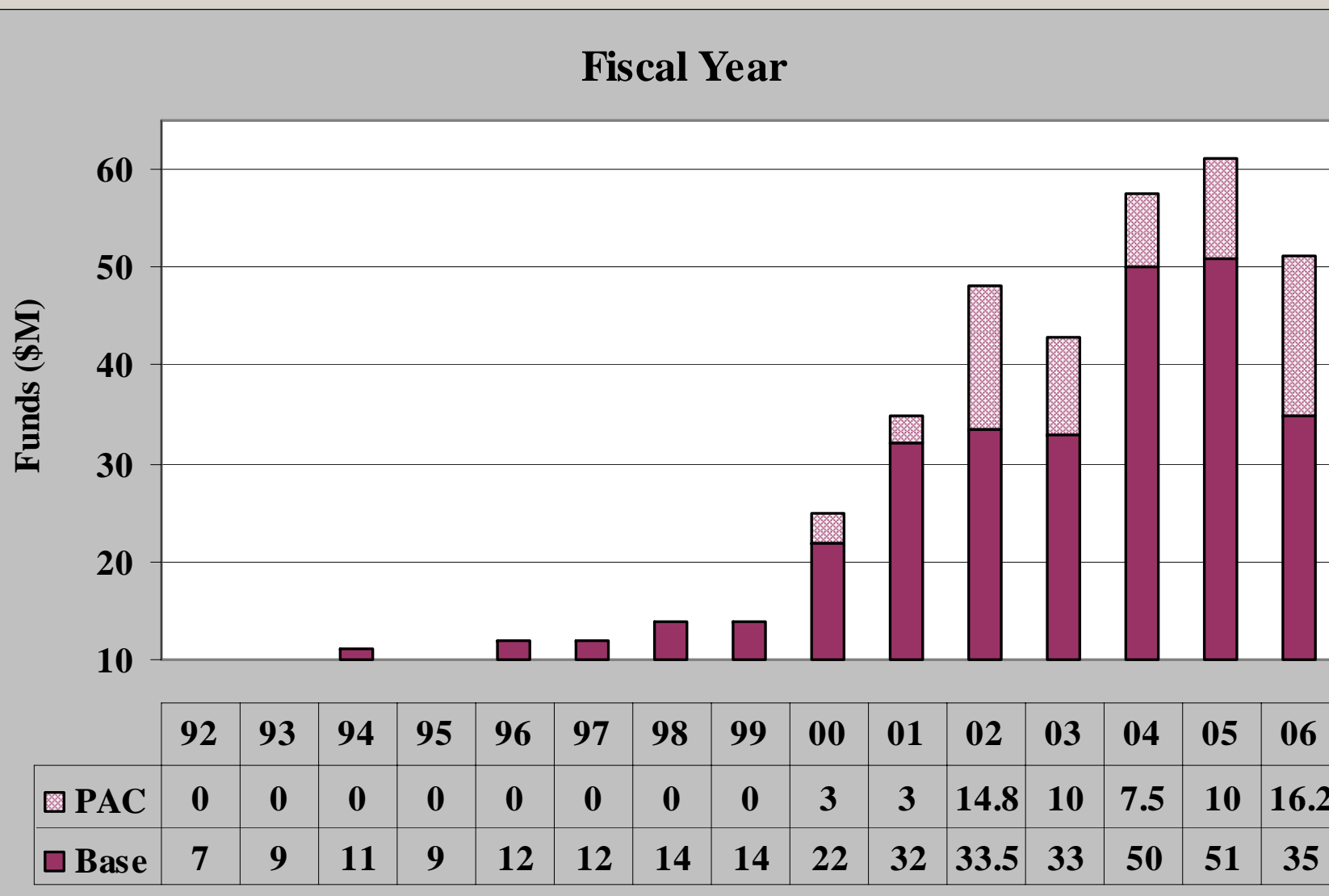




Funding History



“Recognizing Resource Requirements to Fulfill the Mandate”

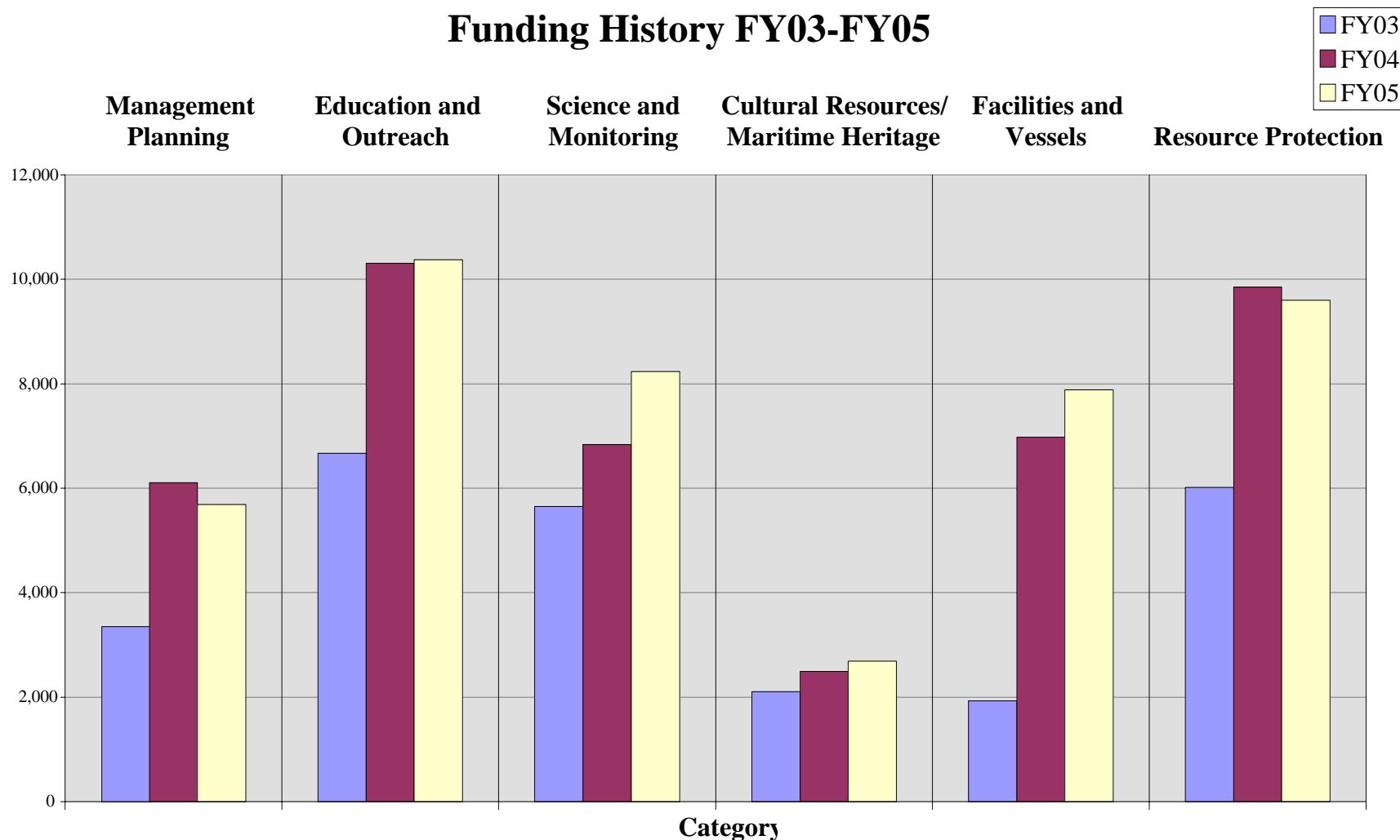




Funding History by Major Thematic Area



Funding History FY03-FY05



ORF and PAC Funding



Our Facilities



5 Federal Properties

- 3 NOAA
- 2 Other Agency

20 Leased Properties

- 2 State Government
- 3 Local Government
- 2 University
- 4 NGOs
- 10 Private

Under Construction

- Dr. Nancy Foster Complex
- Kihei expansion



Great Lakes Maritime Heritage Center
Thunder Bay NMS

Future Projects

- FGBNMS move to Galveston
- UC Santa Barbara facility
- Santa Cruz Interpretive Center
- California Academy of Sciences Aquarium Exhibits

“Recent Appropriations Demonstrate Strong Support for the Program’s Evolution”



How We Do Business



“Through Team Work, Partnerships and Public Involvement”



Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary



How Management Works



Management Plans: The Blueprint for Success

- Internationally recognized community-based public process approach (management plan reviews).
- Management plan review creates a new paradigm for a site.
- Plans set priorities and performance measures for resource protection, research, and education.



Olympic Coast National Marine San

Public participation in monitoring
Olympic Coast NMS



Management Plan Reviews



Underway

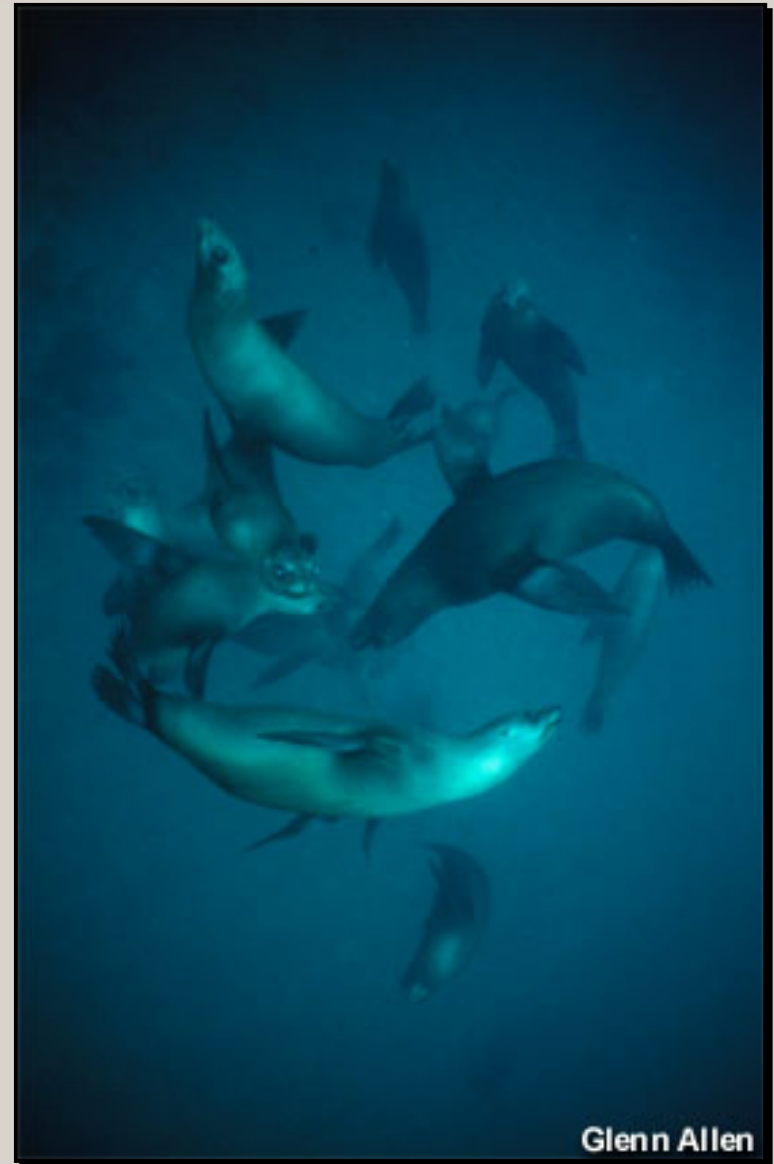
- Joint California (Cordell Bank, Gulf of the Farallones, Monterey Bay)
- Florida Keys
- Flower Garden Banks
- Gray's Reef
- Stellwagen Bank
- Channel Islands
- Thunder Bay

Designation

- Northwestern Hawaiian Islands

Upcoming

- Fagatele Bay
- Monitor
- Olympic Coast





Maximizing Public Participation



Sanctuary Advisory Councils

- All 14 Councils operational.
- 390 members and alternates.
- All Council meetings open to the public.
- Represent diverse stakeholders (e.g. environmental, business, fishing, science, education, recreation).



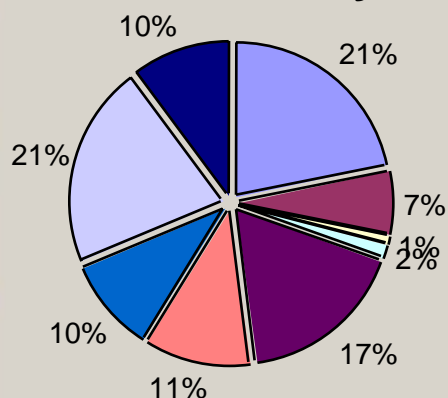
“Leaders and Pioneers in Participatory Management”



Our Partners



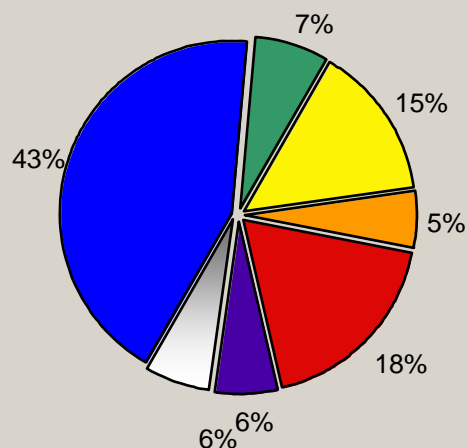
410 Sanctuary Partners



- Local & State agencies
- Federal agencies
- Native tribes
- International
- Not-for-profit organizations
- Private business & institutions
- Aquaria, museums & nature centers
- Universities & labs
- Local Schools

***In a given year,
the NMSP works
with over 400
partners from
government,
academic,
and private
institutions.***

NMSP Activities Supported Through Partnerships

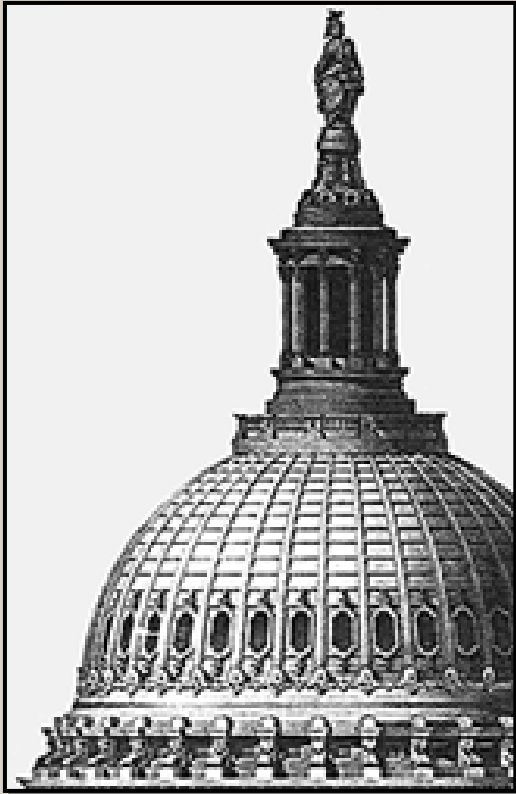


- Education
- Education & Science
- Science
- Science & Management
- Management
- Education & Management
- Education, Science & Management

Source: 2003 NMSP Survey



Foundations and Friends



- **MISSION:** promote greater awareness of NMSP.
- **Generate private sector product success.**
- **Serves a leadership roll in organizing US ocean interests.**
- **Directly supports sanctuary programs and activities.**



Looking Beyond Sanctuaries



“Meeting the Nation’s Needs for Healthy Oceans and Economies”



Quenton Dokken



Sanctuaries Promote “One NOAA”



- Sanctuaries are where the public meets NOAA.
- Focal points for atmospheric and oceanic research.
- Test beds for evaluating new technology.
- Serve as natural laboratories for evaluating monitoring, enforcement, and resource management activities and policies.



Jamie Hall

NOAA ship *McArthur* conducting research
Olympic Coast NMS



A Continuing to Evolve Program



- Fulfilling exhibit, facilities and small boat goals.
- Implementing regional organization.
- Creation of Great Lakes Maritime Heritage Center.
- Standardizing system wide monitoring.
- Developing strategic plans for program requirements.
- Supporting NOAA's Ocean Literacy program.



Northwestern Hawaiian Islands Exhibit-Photo
Claire Johnson



Some Challenges



- Sustaining momentum,
- Ensuring staff continuity,
- Fulfilling expectations of governmental, non-governmental and public partners,
- Maintaining public trust and confidence,
- Responding to interest in new sites.



Monitor 2002 Expedition members pose in front of turret
Monitor NMS



Final Thoughts



***“Providing National and International
Leadership for Marine Conservation for the
21st Century”***

